

Message Text

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44
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /121 W
----- 041746

R 081212Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1233
INFO AOEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SW
SUBJECT: REACTION TO IB DEFENDANTS' SENTENCING

REF: STOCKHOLM 0046

1. AS EXPECTED, SENTENCING OF BRATT, GUILLOU AND ISACSSON SPARKED DEMONSTRATIONS RANGING FROM 4000 IN STOCKHOLM TO 100-200 IN VARIOUS OTHER CITIES. HOWEVER, MUCH OF ENTHUSIASM WAS MUTED BECAUSE OF LIGHT SENTENCES. RADICAL JAN MYRDAL CALLED SENTENCE "A CUNNING COMPROMISE...HARSH ENOUGH TO FRIGHTEN INFORMANTS AND JOURNALISTS INTO SILENCE AND MILD ENOUGH NOT TO DRAW NEERNTATIONAL ATTENTION." NEWSPAPERS MOSTLY COMMENTED DRYLY ON CLEVERNESS OF SENTENCE, WHICH HAS PROBABLY PRECLUDED ANY APPEAL, AND ALSO NOTE THE SLACKNESS OF THE REACTION.

2. COMMENT: THE DEFENDANTS' SUPPORTERS ARE CLEARLY DISAPPOINTED THAT THEIR FRIENDS DID NOT RECEIVE HEAVY SENTENCES. MUCH OF THE MORE COLORFUL RHETORIC, I.E., COMPARING PALME GOVERNMENT TO TURKISH AND PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENTS, ETC., IS NOW SEEN BY MOST TO BE RATHER THIN. BUT GOVERNMENT IS CERTAINLY NOT OUT OF THE BOG YET. MODERATE LEADER BOHMAN'S REACTION TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PALME'S LATEST MOVES HAS NOT YET APPEARED (REFTEL), AND

JOURNALISTS OF MANY DIFFERENT IDEOLOGIES APPEAR DETERMINED TO
PURSUE THE IB AFFAIR AS FAR, AS HOTLY, AND AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.
OLSEN

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Message Attributes

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